



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 8, 2004

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33.5 YEAR PRISON SENTENCE FOR BANK ROBBER WHO USED HAND GRENADE

TUCSON, ARIZONA –The United States Attorneys Office for the District of Arizona, announced that on February 24, 2004, Jeffery Charles Hoagland, (D.O.B. 3/20/63) of Tucson, Arizona, was sentenced to 33.5 years in prison for robbing a Tucson bank with a hand grenade. On April 17, 2001, the defendant entered the Wells Fargo Bank located at 5535 E. 22nd Street in Tucson. He was wearing a shoulder length curly black wig to disguise his appearance. He walked up to a teller station and threatened the teller by displaying a metallic green hand grenade. The teller gave the defendant cash from her drawer and the defendant fled the area.

On May 24, 2001, the defendant was stopped driving a stolen car in Pecos County, Texas. The car was impounded. When it was returned to Tucson, the owner of the vehicle noticed a black curly wig in the trunk. The Tucson Police Department was notified. Officers from the police department prepared a six person photographic lineup that contained the defendant's picture and showed it to the bank teller. The bank teller then identified the defendant as the bank robber.

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On November 20, 2003, the defendant was convicted by a federal jury of bank robbery and carrying an destructive device during a crime of violence during the April 17, 2001 bank robbery. The defendant was also a suspect in several other similar bank robberies that occurred in Phoenix and Tucson during the same time frame. On March 8, 2004, the Honorable David C. Bury sentenced the defendant to 33.5 years in prison.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Tucson Police Department and the F.B.I. The prosecution was handled by Sean C. Chapman, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

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